

Original

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CARSON CITY FIELD OFFICE

**DETERMINATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND
NEPA ADEQUACY NV 030-00-006**

Documentation File: Clan Alpine HMA File

Name of Proposed Action: Clan Alpine Gather and Fertility Control

Location of Proposed Action: Clan Alpine HMA and Surrounding Area

Description of Proposed Action

Proposed Action: Remove excess wild horses and treat older unadoptable mares which are turned back into the HMA with a fertility control drug (Porcine Zona Pellucida; PZP), which will prevent contraception for 2 years, thus reducing the rate of population increase.

Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plans

This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan:

Name of Plan: Lahontan Resource Management Plan Record of Decision and Management Decisions Summary

Date Approved: 9/3/85

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan because it is specifically provided for in the following decisions

Page and Decision: Pages 2-3, Decisions; Short Term - 4, Long Term - 1, page 32
Wild horse management will be guided by HMAPs.

Existing Environmental Document Review

This proposed action is addressed in the following existing BLM EA/EIS.

Name of Document: Clan Alpine Herd Management Area Plan, Capture Plan and Environmental Assessment.

Document No. NV-030-93-004

Date Approved: 7/27/93

This EA has been reviewed against the following seven criteria to determine if it

covers the proposed action.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable management plan because it is specifically provided for in the following decisions

Page and Decision: Page 25

1. The proposed action is a feature of, or essentially the same as, the alternative selected and analyzed in the existing document.

The current proposed action, removal of excess wild horses and treating mares with a contraceptive is identical to the proposed action for the Clan Alpine HMA found in the 1993 Herd Management Area Plan, Capture Plan and Environmental Assessment (HMAP and EA). The number of horses was based on monitoring data, subsequent rangeland monitoring has been completed. The results of these processes indicated that the management level identified in the HMAP is still valid. The Clan Alpine HMA, remains identical to the HMA analyzed in the Lahontan EIS, Lahontan Rangeland Program Summary (1985) and HMAP, the boundaries are also unchanged.

2. A reasonable range of alternatives was analyzed in the existing documents.

The HMAP and EA analyzed the proposed action and the no action alternative. The proposed action was to manage wild horse at a level compatible with multiple uses and maintaining a thriving ecological balance, preventing deterioration of the range and minimizing the number of excess wild horses by employing contraceptives.

3. There has been no significant change in circumstances or significant new information germane to the proposed action.

Observations of the Clan Alpine HMA, have shown that vegetative use has increased due to an increase in wild horse numbers. By reducing the wild horses numbers down to the level identified in the HMAP it is anticipated that the range would recover and a multiple use relationship would exist.

The preceding information and on-going observations on the HMAP by CCFO staff, confirm that the wild horse numbers set in the HMAP are still valid. Therefore, the original analysis remains valid and germane to the current proposed action.

4. The methodology/analytical approach previously used is appropriate for the proposed action.

The methodology used in the Lahontan Grazing EIS evaluated the impacts of five grazing alternatives including the proposed action on the full spectrum of resources and programs under BLM jurisdiction. This analysis included anticipated impacts of grazing use on vegetation, wildlife, water, soil and other resources. This analytical approach remains a valid and often used approach today. Rangeland management involves setting measurable objectives for issues and resources of concern, implementing a management scenario, monitoring the

effects of management on those objectives, and evaluating current management against the existing objectives and new information, circumstances and suggested management alternatives. In fact, this is the process we have used to evaluate the proposed current action.

The following technical references continue to be used for data collection on grazing allotments in the CCFO today. They include: 1) Rangeland Monitoring, Analysis, Interpretation, and evaluation (Technical Reference 4400-7 1985), 2) Rangeland Monitoring Trend Studies (Technical Reference 4400-4 1985) and the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook, 1984.

The analytical methodologies utilized in grazing management and in the Lahontan Grazing EIS are either identical or similar to those currently in use and remain a valid approach.

5. The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action are not significantly different from those identified in the existing document.

The current proposed action is identical to the proposed action for the Clan Alpine HMA analyzed in the Clan Alpine

6. The proposed action would not change the previous analysis of cumulative impacts.


The current proposed action for the Clan Alpine HMA is identical to the proposed action for this HMA that is included in the Clan Alpine HMAP. Implementing the current proposed action on the Clan Alpine HMA is not likely to change the impact analysis in the HMAP. No new activities on the HMA have been identified that would contribute to impacts associated with wild horse use of the HMA in a fashion that would produce cumulatively significant impacts.

Observations of the Clan Alpine HMA, have shown that vegetative use has increased due to an increase in wild horse numbers. The cumulative impacts associated with increasing horse numbers include over use of vegetative resources and over use of springs and seeps in the northern portion of the HMA. By reducing the wild horses numbers down to the level identified in the HMAP it is anticipated that the range would recover and a multiple use relationship would exist.

7. Public involvement in the previous analysis provides appropriate coverage of the proposed action.

The Lahontan Grazing EIS and Clan Alpine HMAP/Capture Plan and EA were subject to the public involvement requirement found in CEQ regulation 40 CFR 1500-1508.

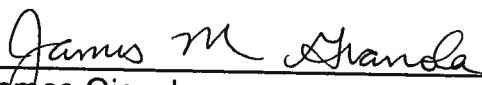
Prepared By:



John Axtell
Wild Horse and Burro Specialist

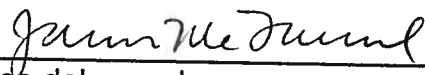
7 Dec 99
Date

Reviewed By:



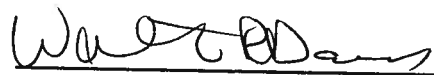
James Gianola
Senior Rangeland Management Specialist

12-7-99
Date



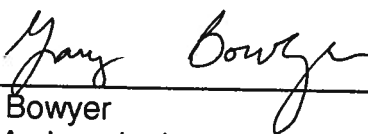
James deLaurel
Soil Scientist

12/9/99
Date




William R. Brigham
Wildlife Management Biologist

12/7/99
Date



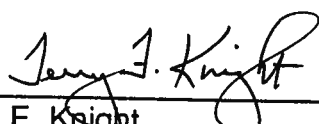
Gary C. Bowyer
Historic Archaeologist

12/7/99
Date



M. Bashir Sulahria
Hydrologist

12/7/99
Date



Terry F. Knight
Recreation Planner

12/8/99
Date

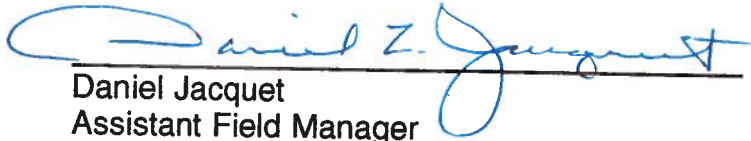
I concur with the reviewers finding that the proposed action has been adequately analyzed in a previous prepared NEPA document.



Terri Kuntson
Environmental Coordinator

12/9/99
Date

I have determined that the proposed action has been adequately covered by previous NEPA analysis and it is in conformance with the applicable land use plan. It is my decision to implement the action, as described, with the following stipulations and/or mitigation measures.








Daniel Jacquet
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources
Carson City Field Office

1/6/00
Date

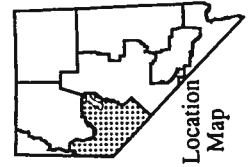
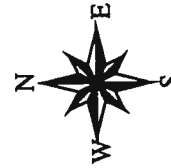
Attachment:
I. Location Map

Clan Alpine HMA

Legend

	BLM
	Private Lands
	Major Roads
	Secondary Roads
	Field Office Boundary
	HMA Boundary

1 0 1 2 3 Miles



Location
Map

LANDER CO

